THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 27, 2024 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 44 • LATE CITY EDITION

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TRICHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

U.S., France urge Israel, Lebanon to pause fight

The US, France and other allies jointly called for an immediate 21-day ceasefire on Thursday to give room for negotiations to de-escalate tensions. Israel has rejected the truce proposal and vowed to continue fighting. The Indian Embassy in Beirut urged Indians to avoid travelling to Lebanon and advised those present there to leave at the earliest | PTI | P12

K'taka withdraws general consent for CBI probe

Cites Central agency's bias while targeting leaders from particular parties

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday withdrew the general consent allowing the CBI to probe cases in the state, citing bias in favour of the Centre to target leaders from certain parties. This move comes amid shrill demands from various quarters, including the BJP, for the CBI to probe the allegedly illegal Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) sites allotment case against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his family.

This decision by the state cabinet makes Karnataka the latest state to join the list of non-BJP-ruled states — including West Bengal, Kerala and Tamil Nadu — to withdraw the general consent to the CBI.

It also comes two days after the Karnataka High Court gave its nod to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot's approval to conduct an investigation into the case after complaints were received by him seeking a probe, and a day after the Special Court to try cases against sitting and former MPs/MLAs ordered the Lokayukta police to investigate the allegations against Siddaramaiah and his family members about the alleged illegal allotment of the sites to the CM's wife Parvathy BM by MUDA and submit a report to the court within three months. Law Minister HK Patil told reporters after the cabinet meeting on Thursday that they decided to withdraw the general consent for CBI investigations in the state, as there were concerns of the bureau misusing it and not using its powers judiciously. "The notification granting general consent for the CBI to probe criminal cases in Karnataka, under the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946, has been withdrawn," Patil said. P4

CABINET TO DECIDE ON INFO SOUGHT BY GUV

The cabinet on Thursday decided that any information sought from the state government by the governor's office will be first discussed in the cabinet, which will decide on the response to be sent to Raj Bhavan. P4

KOLIWAD TELLS SIDDU TO RESIGN

While all legislators want Siddaramaiah to continue as CM, senior Congress leader KB Koliwad said, "Siddaramaiah should resign from his post to avoid embarrassment to the party." P4

CM Siddaramaiah greets Industries Minister MB Patil at the launch of KWIN City project on Thursday | EXPRESS

CM unveils 'dynamic hub' KWIN City

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday said 'KWIN' (Knowledge, Wellbeing & Innovation) City will be a gamechanger and represents Karnataka's bold vision for the future – a state-of-the-art hub for knowledge, health, innovation and research.

"We are creating an ecosystem that will drive economic growth, attract global talent and foster groundbreaking advancements," the CM said, after unveiling KWIN City, which is located along Satellite Town Ring Road between Dabaspet and Doddaballapur.

Spread over 5,800 acres, KWIN City is expected to redefine Karnataka's business landscape, integrating Knowledge, Health, Wellbeing and Innovation into a cohesive ecosystem that fosters growth and drives innovation.

Deputy CM DK Shivakumar said, "KWIN City is a landmark initiative that embodies our vision for the future of Bengaluru and Karnataka." P2

37 KIDS AMONG 46 DROWNED AFTER HOLY DIP ACROSS BIHAR

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

AS many as 46 people, including 37 children, drowned in the last 24 hours while taking a holy bath in rivers and ponds across Bihar as part of the three-day *Jivitputrika* festival celebrations, which began on Wednesday. Four women were among the 46 who lost their lives.

Women observe fast for the well-being of their children to mark the occasion. The three-day festival began with *nahay khay* (fasting) when devotees take a holy dip in rivers and ponds.

Wednesday's deaths were reported from 15 districts of the state. "A total of 43 bodies have been recovered so far. Further search operations are underway," the Bihar disaster management department said.

People mourn on Thursday after their family members drowned in Aurangabad district of Bihar | PTI

People blamed the casualties on the lack of crowd management near water bodies. "There was no deployment of the state disaster response team at any of the water bodies in the district," said Upendra Yadav, father of eight-year-old Ankaj Kumar, a resident of Kusaha in Aurangabad district.

Jaglal Ral, who lost his 14-year-old daughter Rikki Kumari, said his daughter had gone for taking bath in the village pond when tragedy struck. Ral, a resident of Olhanpur village in Saran district, said his daughter was part of a group of women and girls who had gone to the pond for a holy dip.

Incidents of drowning were reported in East Champaran, West Champaran, Aurangabad, Nalanda, Kaimur, Buxar, Siwan, Rohtas, Saran, Patna, Vaishali, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Gopalganj and Arwal districts.

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar announced an ex-gratia of ₹4 lakh for the next of kin of the deceased.

EXPRESS READ

Man sentenced to death for sexually assaulting 21 kids

ITANAGAR: A POCSO court in Yupia, Arunachal Pradesh, on Thursday sentenced a man to death for sexually assaulting 21 children at a residential school. Yumken Bagra was the warden of the hostel at Karo Government Residential School | P9

B'desh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan plans retirement

KANPUR: Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan laid out retirement plans on Thursday, declaring that he is done with T20Is, will wind up his ODI career in next year's Champions Trophy and is ready to bid goodbye to Tests here against India | P19

WITH THIS ISSUE

CITY'S BEST WEEKEND GUIDE INDULGE 44 PAGES, INCLUDING 24 OF INDULGE (TABLOID)

SC junks Guj govt plea to expunge critical remarks in Bilkis verdict

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed a review plea filed by the Gujarat government seeking to expunge certain adverse remarks against it while quashing the premature release of the 11 men convicted of gangraping Bilkis Bano and murdering her family members in 2002. A bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan also rejected the application for listing review petition in open court. "Having gone through the review petitions... we are satisfied that there is no error apparent on the face of the record," it said.

The SC had on January 8 quashed the Gujarat government's decision to grant remission to the 11 convicts. The court said Gujarat "usurped the powers" of the Maharashtra government because the case had been transferred there.

DIRECTORATE
MAHARASHTRA TOURISM
WORLD TOURISM DAY 2024
TOURISM AND PEACE
UN Tourism
This World Tourism Day,
let's make every journey
a step towards a peaceful tomorrow.
Elephanta Caves: A UNESCO World Heritage site near Mumbai, these 6th-century rock-cut caves showcase India's artistic heritage.
The centerpiece is the 7-meter "Sadashiva" sculpture, depicting Shiva as Creator, Preserver, and Destroyer. The caves are a stunning example of western India's rock-architecture.
Scan for bookings & reservations.
To know more: Send 'Hi' to +91 9403878864 Follow us on: MaharashtraTourism @maha_tourism maharashtratourismofficial
diot@maharashtratourism.gov.in www.maharashtratourism.gov.in For bookings and reservations: mahabooking.com
Directorate of Tourism, Tourism Department, Govt. of Maharashtra